Chile Severs Its Ties With Castro Regime

SANTIAGO, Aug. 11 (UPI)—Chile announced today a break in relations with Cuba and agreed to impose other sanctions voted against the island by the Organization of American States.

The announcement was made by President Jorge Alessandri, who said the break will involve not only diplomatic and consular reations, but trade relations as well.

Chile had been one of four Latin American nations to maintain relations with Cuba, although that country was voted out of the OAS, the American family of nations, months ago.

The Chilean break will leave only Mexico, Bolivia and Uruguay with relations with Cuba. Last week, Mexico announced it would not carry out the OAS sanctions although, at least in theory, they are binding on all OAS member nations. However the OAS set no time limit on compliance with the sanctions directives.

The OAS vote on sanctions against Cuba, demanded by Venezuela because of Cuban aggression, was 15 to 4. The nations that opposed the OAS recommendations were the four still maintaining ties with the Castro regime.

Bolivia and Uruguay have yet to define their positions on sanctions. However, neither has indicated interest in the Mexican suggestion that the sanctions be submitted to the World Court in the Hague for a ruling on their legality. Mexico has implied that the OAS sanctions exceeded the authority of that regional body, and that they violated the charter of the United Nations.

Alessandri in his statement referred to Chile's vote against the sanctions in the Washington OAS meeting of foreign ministers. But in an apparent rebuke to Mexico, he added:

"In accordance with the dispositions of the Inter-American Treaty of Mutual Defense, or Rio de Janeiro, once this type of resolution has been adopted by the required quorum, the resolutions are obligatory, even for countries voting against them."

He said the original Chilean objections to sanctions were based on the belief they were "inconvenient and inadequate."

Alessandri, whose term of office expires next month, said it would have been easier for him to leave the question of sanctions up to his successor, but that he could not "elude the responsibility that the nation invested in me . . ."